

# The State CSBG Director's Digest

April 21, 2010

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## NASCSP's Mission:

*"Building capacity in States to respond to poverty issues."*

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The State CSBG Director's Digest is a daily publication that brings you timely information about funding opportunities, resources, events, and publications that may be of interest to the CSBG network.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program

Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

The primary objective of the program is to promote rural economic development and job creation projects. Assistance provided to rural areas, as defined, under this program may include business startup costs, business expansion, business incubators, technical assistance feasibility studies, advanced telecommunications services and computer networks for medical, educational, and job training services and community facilities projects for economic development. [Learn more...](#)

### Champ A Champion Fur Kids Grants

Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

Grants for children's health and wellness. Programs should provide direct support to children, such as child safety organizations or organizations that serve children with special needs.

Individual Project grants - These grants are generally for one-time purchases or to fulfill a short-term need, such as the purchase of materials or equipment.

Organization Program grants - These grants fund start-up or operational costs for ongoing programs. Examples include funds for research, health and wellness educational programs, or financial assistance for children and families in-need. [Learn more...](#)

## EVENTS

### Green Jobs: Connecting Supply and Demand

Tuesday, April 27, 2010; 1:00 pm-2:15 pm CDT

Three Midwestern states have been awarded \$50 million under the recovery act to train a clean energy workforce. Federal, state and community programs will create unprecedented demand for energy efficiency in the short term. New requirements to achieve significant energy reduction goals will sustain opportunity over the long term in the energy efficiency sector. The energy efficiency industry wants to scale up to meet the demand. Workforce development professionals want to get people back to work in good jobs. What do we need to do to make sure we capture the opportunities for both? [Learn more...](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

### AfterZones: Creating a Citywide System to Support and Sustain High-Quality After-School Programs

Public/Private Ventures

This report presents our analysis of the implementation of the AfterZone initiative-a citywide system-building effort in Providence, RI, that aims to provide high-quality, accessible out-of-school-time services to middle school youth. The AfterZone model is built on a network of "neighborhood campuses," providing participants with the opportunity to travel to programs located outside of the main program facility, the

middle school. Incorporating both qualitative and quantitative research findings, the report examines the implementation of the initiative's unique features and documents its operations. It also explores the challenges and successes of Providence's system-building efforts as well as the strategies used to sustain them. [Learn more...](#)

### **Alternative Welfare-to-Work Strategies for the Hard-to-Employ**

Urban Institute

Two welfare-to-work programs for hard-to-employ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipients are evaluated: a transitional-jobs model operated by the Transitional Work Corporation (TWC) and Success Through Employment Preparation (STEP), which addresses barriers to employment. TWC participants had significantly higher employment rates and earnings than the control group members, but the difference faded after the first year of follow-up. Moreover, earnings gains and welfare reductions largely offset one another. STEP program participants were not shown to work more, earn more, or receive less welfare than the control group. [Learn more...](#)

### **Opportunity and Ownership over the Life Cycle**

Urban Institute

A key driver of persistent poverty is a lack of savings and assets. While public assistance can help families, assets give families the means to help themselves. Rather than thinking in isolation about each asset—education, homeownership, or retirement savings—policies to combat poverty or build wealth should account for people's needs and ability to acquire assets over a lifetime. To help craft a more inclusive wealth-building policy, this brief seeks evidence from typical lifecycle saving patterns and draws on suggestions from a roundtable of asset, education, housing, and retirement policy experts. [Learn more...](#)

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Thank you for reading the State CSBG Director's Digest! We are committed to providing you with relevant and helpful information. If you have any comments or requests regarding this publication, please [contact us!](#)

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